GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1646
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2002
BUDGET AMOUNT ON HEALTH SERVICE .
B.K. PARTHASARATHI;GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI;GANTA SRINIVASA RAO;GUNIPATI RAMAIAH;MINATI SEN;MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED;TARACHAND BHAGORA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are spending only one percent of the total budget on health services;

(b) whether a demand has been made to the Government to spend one tenth amount of the budget on the health services;

(c) if so, whether Government have considered this demand;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a): Central Government has been spending about 1.3% of the total budget on health care services.

(b)to(e): No such specific demand has been made. However, there is always a general demand to increase public expenditure on all social sectors including health care. Budgetary allocation on different sectors is decided keeping in view the availability of the overall budgetary resources and sectoral priorities. The health expenditure in the country as a percentage of GDP has been approximately 5.2% around 1997. The Central Government has been making making every effort to increase its contribution to the public health expenditure. The overall Plan outlay in the health sector in the 9th Five Year Plan has been 4.01% of the total plan outlay as compared to 3.24% during the 8th Five Year Plan. The resources for public investment in health sector are also being augmented by securing assistance from various bi-lateral and multi-lateral agencies for implementation of various disease control programmes. Health infrastructure in certain States has also been upgraded with World Bank assistance.

The draft National Health Policy, 2002 envisages increasing the Central and State Governments` contribution from the existing 15 percent and 5.5 percent to 25 percent and 8 percent respectively of the total spending in the health sector by 2010.